

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

COME-00 SEC-01 JUSE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 FRB-03 /071 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1685

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 15066

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, GW

SUBJECT: LOCKHEED AND THE FRG

REF: A. BONN 14719 B. BONN 14761 C. STATE 219578

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED LOCKHEED MATTER WITH RATH, MINISTRY OF DEFENSE ANTI-CORRUPTION OFFICIAL, ON SEPTEMBER 7. RATH APPEARED SOMEWHAT FRUSTRATED AT CURRENT FRG ATTEMPT TO PERSUADE USG TO RELEASE DOCUMENTS ON LOCKHEED ACTIVITIES IN GERMANY WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS THAT WOULD PREVENT MATERIALS BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO A PARLIAMENTARY INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE. HE SAID US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAD MADE IT CLEAR TO FRG DELEGATION, INCLUDING RATH, THAT INITIALLED AGREEMENT IN JULY, THAT DOJ HAD NO FLEXIBILITY ON THIS POINT. INVESTIGATION IN GERMANY HAS GONE AS FAR AS IT CAN GO WITHOUT ACCESS TO DOJ DOCUMENTS AND ESPECIALLY TO SEC DOCUMENTS WHICH RATH HAS STRONG HUNCH CONTAIN RELEVANT INFORMATION ON GERMANY.

2. RATH EXPLAINED THAT BECAUSE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HAD RUN OUT ON ANY CRIMINAL ACTS THAT MIGHT HAVE OCCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH THE F-104 G PROGRAM, THE ONLY WAY HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS COULD BE REACHED, IF THEY WERE FOUND TO BE IMPLICATED, WOULD BE BY EXPOSURE THROUGH A PARLIAMENTARY INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE

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REPORT. EVEN THIS WOULD NOT, OF COURSE, ENABLE THEM TO

BE PUNISHED AS CRIMINALS, BUT IT WOULD END THEIR
POLITICAL CAREERS. NEVERTHELESS, RATH WOULD PREFER TO
OBTAIN THE DOCUMENTS NOW UNDER DOJ CONDITIONS AND NEGOTIATE LATER THE QUESTION OF WHAT IF ANYTHING CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE TO A PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.
HILLENBRAND

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